

Spotlight on Midlands...



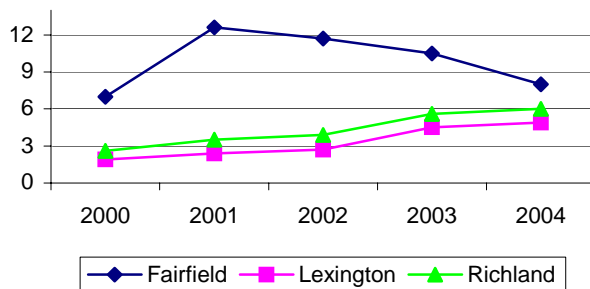
Location & Climate

Located in the central area of the state, the Midlands WIA is comprised of three counties: Fairfield, Lexington, and Richland. This area experiences average temperatures in the low to mid 60s and has between 45.29 and 48.05 inches of precipitation annually.

Labor Force

The labor force in the Midlands area reached 304,834 in 2004. The 2004 unemployment rate spanned from 4.9% to 8.0%, showing an increase since 2003.

Unemployment Rate by County



Population

Total Area Population 2004: 589, 808
Male: 48.4% **Female:** 51.6%
White: 62.9% **Nonwhite:** 37.1%

Employment

Average monthly employment in 2004 for counties across the Midlands WIA ranged from 10,468 in Fairfield to 159,014 in Richland.

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

In 2004, unemployment insurance benefits paid by workforce centers in the Midlands WIA reached a total of \$39,490,425.

Per Capita Income

Per capita income for Midlands WIA counties in 2003 ranged from \$21,645 in Fairfield County to \$30,048 in Lexington County, between 83% and 115% of the state's PCI of \$26,144.

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